

Memorial United Methodist Church

March 17, 2019

Second Sunday in Lent

Gathering and Centering our hearts for worship

Welcoming and Announcements

Call to Worship - Responsive

Wait for the Lord. Be strong; take heart.

We will see the goodness of God in the land of the living.

The Lord is our light and our salvation.

Whom shall we fear?

Though adversaries plot against us,

God protects us from harm.

Sing to the Lord with songs of joy.

Make melody to the Lord, our God.

Come, let us worship.

Opening Prayer

God of embracing love, gather us under the wings of your love, even as Jesus longed to gather Jerusalem into the arms of his love. Send your Holy Spirit into our worship this day, that we may be strengthened for the time ahead, as we seek to walk faithfully with Christ all the way to the cross. Be our light and our salvation, that we may live in your presence and walk in your ways all the days of our lives. Amen.

♦ Hymn “Great Is Thy Faithfulness ” 140

Sharing of Joys / Concerns / Testimonies

Prayer for our concerns

Reading of the Psalm

♦ Hymn “I Am Thine, O Lord ” 419

♦ Scripture Reading

Please stand for the reading of the Scripture

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

♦ Doxology 95
WE STAND TO PRAISE GOD

Children’s Moment

Prayer of Confession

Holy One, in the darkness of night, you met Abraham’s deepest fears. We long to meet you in the secret place of our dreams. Come to us in our darkest nights, and overcome our fear and dread with your hope and promise of new life. Help us be strong and take heart, for you are our light and our salvation. Your power draws us like a moth to the flame. Teach us your ways, O God, that we may be your beloved children— children of life and promise. Amen.

The Message

♦ Hymn “Grace Greater than Our Sin ” 365

♦ Benediction

Postlude

♦ Please stand as you are able
The altar is always open. You may come to the altar to pray anytime.

Christ’s desire is to gather us together,
as a mother hen gathers her brood under her wing. Be strong;
take heart, for God’s love and mercy pursue us, even in the
darkest night.

Welcome to

Memorial United Methodist Church
509 Market St., Spencer, WV 25276
304-927-4427 Church Office 304-519-2016 Parsonage
www.spencermemorialumc.org

Joys:

Living testimonies to the saving grace of God

Concerns:

Betty Rader

Mary Kendall

Clara Wyatt

Andy Cheek

Leonard May

Jennifer Gandee-Barker

Frances Lowe

Jenny Lewis

Dee Cheek

Holly Smith

Unspoken Prayers of the People

The Unchurched of our Community

Those affected by the recent natural disasters

Families suffering the loss of loved ones

To add a concern to the Prayer list - please complete a Prayer card
and place it in the Offering Plate.

This Week's Activities and Announcements

Invite a friend.

Sunday School - Job A Man of Enduring Faith

Thurs. 9:00AM - Packing BackPacks for schools

Saturday - 10:00 AM - The United Methodist Men's Potato
delivery. Meet at Southern State to
help unload and bring our portion back to
the church.

1:00PM - Church work day- clean-up, trim up and fix up.
Let's get ready for Easter.



Memorial United Methodist Church

509 Market Street


Spencer, WV 25276

304-927-4427

*God's word is not too hard, nor is it far away. Just listen: it is
very near to you today. Find it on your lips and in your heart.*

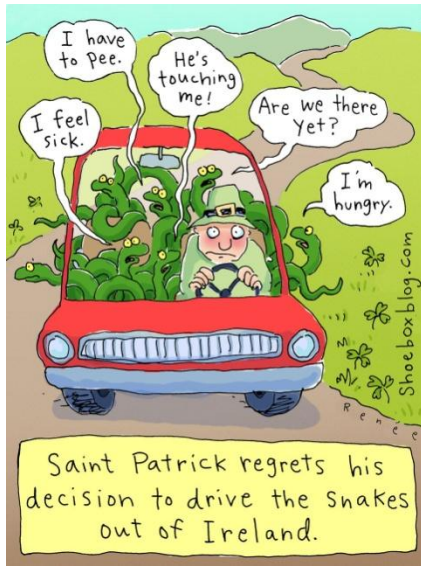
MEMORIAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:30AM Sunday School 11:00 Worship	4	5	6 9 AM - Ministerial Assoc. meeting Ash Wednesday Service 7:00PM St. John's UMC	7 9:00AM Packing BackPacks	8	9 Daylight Savings Time Begins 
10 Daylight Savings Time Begins - set clocks forward 9:30AM Sunday School 11:00 Worship Covered dish lunch and movie after Worship	11	12 All Committees Meeting 6:00PM	13 2:00 PM - Unload BackPack Order from Food Bank	14 9:00AM Packing BackPacks	15	16
17 St. Patrick's Day 9:30AM Sunday School 11:00 Worship	18	19	20 Spring begins	21 9:00AM Packing BackPacks	22	23 10:00AM UM Men's Annual Potato Delivery 1:00 PM - Work Day
24 9:30AM Sunday School 11:00 Worship	25	26	27	28 9:00AM Packing BackPacks	29	30
31 9:30AM Sunday School 11:00 Worship						

CHECK CALENDAR EACH WEEK FOR UPDATES

PICK A THURSDAY AND BECOME A PART OF THE BACKPACK PROGRAM. HELP PACK THE 560 BAGS DELIVERED EACH WEEK TO SCHOOL CHILDREN IN ROANE COUNTY. **BACKPACKING IS A HANDS ON MINISTRY.**



A history of St Patrick

The history of St Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland who was born in the second half of the 4th century, is inevitably sketchy. Even his year of birth is uncertain, with some scholars hitting on 373 while others calculate 390.

Similarly, the place where St Patrick was born cannot be confirmed.

It is known that he was raised near a village called Banna Vemta Burniae but its location cannot be identified.

It may have been lowland Scotland but is equally likely to have been Wales, which was under Roman control at the time.

Patrick's real name was probably Maewyn Succat. His father, Calpornius, was a Roman-British army officer and a deacon.

Despite this family involvement in the church, the young Patrick was not a believer. His life was ordinary, and completely unexceptional, until the age of 16. But dramatic events then occurred which set the history of St Patrick, and the history of Ireland, on a new course.

The kidnapped shepherd

The young lad was kidnapped, along with many others, by Irish pirates and sold into slavery in Ireland. According to his autobiographical Confessio, which survives, the next six years were spent imprisoned in the north of the island and he worked as a herdsman of sheep and pigs on Mount Slemish in Co. Antrim.

During this period, he became increasingly religious. He considered his kidnapping and imprisonment as a punishment for his lack of faith and spent a lot of time in prayer.

After a vision led him to stow away on a boat bound for Britain, Patrick escaped back to his family.

There he had a dream that the Irish were calling him back to Ireland to tell them about God. This inspired him to return to Ireland as a priest, but not immediately. At this point he didn't feel adequately prepared for a life as a missionary. His studies took him to France where he was trained in a monastery, possibly under St Germain, the bishop of Auxerre, and he dedicated this period of his life to learning. It was some 12 years before he returned to Irish shores as a bishop sent with the Pope's blessing.

Ireland's apostle

The next chapter of the history of St Patrick is better known than his earlier life. He landed at Strangford Loch, Co. Down. Although he is often credited with having brought Christianity to Ireland, he was not the first to have done so. An earlier mission had seen Palladius preach to the Irish.

Of course, it wasn't all plain sailing. The history of St Patrick is littered with periods of imprisonment when his teachings had upset local chieftains or Celtic Druids, but he always escaped or gained freedom by presenting his captors with gifts.

For twenty years he travelled the length and breadth of the island, baptising people and establishing monasteries, schools and churches as he went.

By the time he died, on 17 March 461 (or 493, depending on which date you started your calculation), he left behind an organised church, the see of Armagh, and an island of Christians. This date – 17 March – has been commemorated as St Patrick's Day ever since.

He was buried either in Downpatrick, Co Down, or in Armagh.

BTW - Patrick couldn't have driven the snakes out of Ireland because there were never any snakes there to begin with.